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# Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

October 30, 1950

To the Faculty, Committee Members and  
others associated with the Graduate School:

## "Technique plus"

with emphasis on the "plus" is how Capus M. Waynick, administrator of the Point IV program describes the new technical assistance program. In his talk at the opening session of the GS Point IV seminar, October 18, Administrator Waynick said the fact that American "know-how" must be adapted to and not superimposed on the culture of the nations receiving aid calls for emphasis on the "plus" equal to that on techniques.

Some 22 invited representatives from Agriculture, Commerce, ECA, Interior, Public Health, and State are taking part in the bi-weekly seminars at 4:00 p.m., on Point IV and contemporary cultures. M. L. Wilson (Ext.) and Douglas Ensminger (OFAR) who are in charge, plan to explore the "plus" quality, variations among national cultures, and how most effectively to operate a program in each setting.

## Where do the colleges fit

in the military economy which we are setting up in this country? At the call of the American Council on Education, a conference of 1,000 delegates from 600 national education organizations met in Washington, October 6-7 to explore this problem. I attended the general sessions and the section on manpower utilization.

Most newsworthy recommendation came from the advisory group concerned with the deferment of superior college students. As you may know General Hershey has announced his agreement with the proposals to defer students whose outstanding ability is indicated first in the Army General Classification Test and later by college grades. No distinction is made--in these proposals-- between scientific or liberal arts students. In the long-range, educated leaders will be needed in all fields. Deferred students would be classified as II-A (s).

As the Ohio State University Graduate School Record points out, "We have only recently begun to experience the dangers and responsibilities... to exercise the authority of a world power. We can no longer afford... a frontier and minute-man psychology. We must, if we are wise, adopt a mature approach to the great problem of living in an age of... mobilization. Part of this approach is to make certain that the colleges and universities shall carry on their vital functions and that the students, as well as the draftees, shall be drawn from the flower of our youth."

### Fall enrollments are down

in numbers but up to our expectations-- in view of the fact that the veteran's training program is tapering off. We budgeted 300 classes for this fall instead of 322 scheduled last year. Although some of the courses did not attract enough students to warrant continuation, the demand for other courses kept the total number to par. Average enrollment per class is 20. Registration is above average this term in human relations, population statistics (new this year), and surveying and mapping.

### The National Institute of Public Affairs

rendered a unique service from 1934 to 1949 in conducting a training program for interns in government. A summary published recently reports that 493 interns (298 men and 195 women) from 149 different colleges and universities in 44 states and the District of Columbia successfully completed the training. A considerable number of these former interns have moved into positions at or near the top of the Federal civil service system.

About half of the group attended GS. A number of them were interned or eventually employed in USDA. Many took background courses they had not studied as undergraduates and specialized courses in personnel and budget administration.

The imprint of the intern program can be seen in two recent steps taken by the Civil Service Commission: the establishment of a Junior Management examination and adoption of the internship method for introducing the young men and women into government work.

### USDA's research intern program

is moving along satisfactorily, the committee will report at the meeting of the Land-Grant College Association in Washington next month. The program, now in the third year, was developed cooperatively by USDA and the Association. Designed for graduate students and teachers, it furnishes opportunities for work experience under outstanding USDA workers. The graduate students get credit for the work and use it as the basis for a thesis in satisfying requirements for advanced degrees at the institution nominating him. The teachers make use of the program for educational advancement on sabbaticals. Openings are regular USDA positions for limited periods and without civil service requirements.

The committee notes the need for more intern opportunities and more top-grade nominations by the universities. Cooperation in this is not confined to land-grant schools.

Members of the committee are R. Y. Winters (ARA) chairman, Russell C. Engberg (FCA), Gladys Gallup (Ext), Parke G. Haynes (Pers), C. O. Henderson (Pers), Walter H. Larrimer (FS), Roy W. Lennartson (PMA), Ethan A. Norton (SCS), and O. C. Stine (BAE).

### The Executive order

to meet manpower shortages in occupations essential to defense production provides for specific training programs. These will be conducted by schools, colleges and universities under the sponsorship of the Office of Education. Commissioner McGrath points out that while plans are being made by OE to develop these programs, each institution is advised to proceed with its own planning on an individual basis.

First request to come to GS along this line is from the Naval Gun Factory for a course in mathematics for shop foremen.



### Have you seen

CONFERENCE SENSE, a humorously written and amusingly illustrated bulletin prepared in the Office of Naval Personnel? With a light touch, the unnamed author(or authors) does a top-flight job of illuminating basic attitudes that make for productive conference.

"A successful conference results," according to this bulletin, "when the atmosphere of meeting is such that five men can advance five separate solutions of a problem, but in the course of exchanging viewpoints and information develop a sixth solution acceptable to all and better than any one solution."

"...conferees must come to feel that exchanging information and experience sets off a sort of chain reaction that builds up a superior group wisdom. The group reaches maximum effectiveness when all the members feel personally responsible for the success of the meeting; and this feeling of personal responsibility starts with the determination to find a common ground, even if it's only the fact that the great majority of us put pants-- or panties-- on the same way, i.e., one leg at a time."

### Thirty-eight Alumni of GS

(that stands for both Graduate School and general semantics in this case) met at the Mount Pleasant library, October 2 and organized a general semantics group. Purpose is to help members become better acquainted with the methodology and its applications and to keep up with the latest developments in GS and related fields. Miles A. Libbey showed a motion picture of the 1948 summer seminar. Ruth Nordin, head of the new group, reports that Charlotte Schuchardt, assistant to Korzybski, has agreed to speak at the November 6 meeting. Slides made by Peyton Calloway, GS leader in Los Angeles, will be featured at the December 4 meeting. Jack Fordyce and Susanne Manovill assisted Miss Nordin and Commander Libbey in organization of the new group.

### Often in the vanguard

in ideas and techniques for the improvement of adult education, the New School for Social Research (New York) has announced two innovations that reflect the imagination and vigor of the school's leadership:

(1) A diploma of achievement in advanced studies set up to meet "the needs of mature men and women who regard study as a free adventure of the mind." The plan, no substitute for a bachelor's degree, does not parallel any traditional college curriculum. The student may chose an area for concentration in any of the following: anthropology, economics, fine arts, history, housing, international relations, philosophy, political science, public relations, psychology, mathematics, music, literature, and natural science. He takes at least 18 courses in the chosen field, on completion submits a written report, and then further demonstrates his understanding of the field in a discussion with three members of the faculty.

(2) Enlisting mature scholars is how the New School describes its panel of outstanding retired professors. As Alvin Johnson observes, "Such teachers are being supplied in large numbers by the widely followed policy of retirement...at an age when their intellectual powers are at their height." On the panel for courses this semester are: John A. Fitch, a leading authority on industrial relations; Nelson P. Mead, the historian; Cornelia Meigs, the writer; Edwin Mims, former head of the English department at Vanderbilt; and Arnold Gesell, the celebrated child psychologist.

Did you hear

E. C. Stakman's talk on "Science and Marketing" in the lecture series, October 16. It was an inspiring discussion in which the distinguished plant scientist and the former president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science established the broad philosophical background for future discussions.

Civilization, he reminded us, is not a blueprint but an evolutionary pattern toward the highest in aesthetics and ethics. The pattern is subject to change. It responds to our actions. Not too much but too little science has threatened Western civilization in the past. Dr. Stakman sees education as the evolution of the individual toward intellectual enlightenment and spiritual refinement. He describes science as the discovery, organization, and humanization of research. The ultimate objective is the application of the results of research to human welfare.

Observing that science has made important contributions to civilization by emancipating man from (1) ignorance and fear, (2) the limitations of his environment, and (3) the imperfections of his own physical powers, Dr. Stakman says the greatest need now is for improved techniques to emancipate man from the tensions in his own nature. This must be realized through advances in the social sciences.

### ABOUT OURSELVES

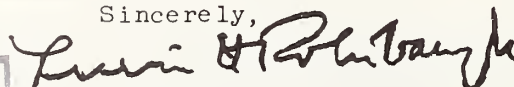
Louis C. Smith, instructor in copyright law, helped revise the U.S. section for the second revised and enlarged edition of "Copyright Protection in the Americas under National Legislation and Inter-American Treaties," recently published by the Pan-American Union. Dr. Smith is on the staff of the Library of Congress.

As head of the new price staff set-up in PMA, J. Murray Thompson, vice-chairman of the social sciences department, is responsible for evaluations and recommendations on price questions. These include the use of price mechanisms to stimulate production, the effect of legal price minimum and other price provisions of the Defense Production Act, and the relationship of price to allocation controls, distribution, purchasing, inventory management, and similar activities.

So far as we know Valery J. Tereshtenko is the only member of the GS faculty who also teaches in the New School for Social Research in New York. Dr. Tereshtenko meets his GS class in "Modern Russia" on Monday evenings. Later in the week he teaches a class in "Social Economics and Social System" in New York.

Edward C. Johnson (SEC) who teaches "Introduction to Administrative Law and Procedure" and "Business Law" assisted with a program designed to acquaint a group of Japanese lawyers with various aspects of the American bar.

Sincerely,



Director

